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Revision: 2

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS  
PRACTICAL SKILL  
NASOPHARYNGEAL AIRWAY  
INSERTION**

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Signature:
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<b>Purpose:</b> To maintain a patent airway by holding the tongue off the posterior pharynx		<b>Indications:</b> Decreased level of consciousness	
<b>Advantages:</b> Better tolerated than rigid oral airway Less likely to stimulate gag reflex as patient regains consciousness Can be inserted without having to open mouth	<b>Disadvantages:</b> Does not prevent aspiration	<b>Complications:</b> May cause epistaxis Pharyngeal stimulation may cause gagging or vomiting	<b>Contraindications:</b> Should not be inserted in patients with suspected basilar skull fractures or severe facial trauma

